

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

By this amendment, claims 11-16 have been added. Thus, claims 1-5 are canceled and 6-16 are pending.

Support for the new claims can be found at least at column 71, line 62 to column 72, line 11, column 75, lines 40-46, Fig. 144, Fig. 160, column 68, lines 52-60 and Fig. 123.

In item 1 on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that the preliminary amendment filed December 20, 2000 is improper in that it simply includes a statement directing the cancellation of claims 1-5, rather than including the text of claims 1-5 enclosed in brackets. The Examiner is referred to MPEP § 1410, page 1400-4, column 2, which states that an amendment may be submitted in a separate paper at the time of filing of a reissue application. MPEP § 1453, page 1400-56, column 2, states that a patent claim should be canceled by a direction to cancel that claim, there is no need to present the patent claim surrounded by brackets (emphasis added). Thus, it is submitted that the preliminary amendment directing the cancellation of claims 1-5, without a presentation of claims 1-5 in brackets, is proper.

In light of the Examiner's requirement, formal drawings for the present application are filed herewith.

Claims 6-10 were indicated as allowed.

It is submitted that new claims 11-16 are patentable over the prior art at least because of the recitations discussed as follows. Claims 11, 13, 14, and 16 include recitations drawn to the

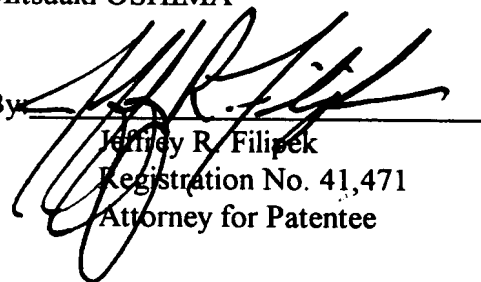
transmission of first and second data streams, wherein first ECC encoding, interleaving, and second ECC encoding are applied to at least the second data stream. Claims 12, 13, 15, and 16 include recitations drawn to the receiving of a signal, including the demodulation of a signal resulting in two signals, wherein first ECC decoding, de-interleaving, and second ECC decoding is applied to at least one of the signals.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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